

Mt. View, Wyoming  
January 28, 1966

State Engineer  
State of Utah  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Sir:

Following is a short report of the water situation on Burnt Fork, Birch Creek drainage for the year 1965.

The water supply was very good all season and I believe that all water-users received ample water to take care of the irrigation of crops and pasture lands throughout the entire season.

On March 15 I met with the water users at the McKinnon School house as did Don Norseth and others and discussed the problems of the Burnt Fork, Birch Creek district. One of the items discussed was the matter of a Water Commissioner for the district and the pay schedule etc., the conclusion was that I would supervise the water distribution and could hire a deputy as long as the mileage from Mt. View, (my headquarters,) was not charged to the district. It was then agreed that the pay schedule would be the same as the year 1964. This was acceptable to me.

On May 2nd. I spent the day interviewing prospective deputy Water Commissioners and after several interviews I was unable to select one who was willing to accept the job at the present pay schedule.

May 12 again I spent all day trying to get a person selected to take the deputy Commissioner job to handle the regulation of the water in Utah, I was not successful.

June 11, I was scheduled to attend a meeting in McKinnon with Don Norseth and John Tiechert with the water users but due to the flooding conditions in and around Mt. View, I was unable to attend this meeting.

June 20 I tried to reach the Island Lake area to inspect the flood damage to the dam there but on account of washed out roads I was unable to reach the dam. I then discussed water matters with Mr. Bert Wilde in regard to the Inter-state Canal system.

June 27 I again tried to reach the Island Lake area but was yet unable to reach the dam on account of road conditions.

July 16 Made a trip to Hoops Lake to turn water in for stock water to run through the Hoops lake ditch to the stock raisers on Burnt Fork.

July 20 I checked headgates on Burnt Fork that had been washed out by the flood and had in all cases but one be replaced with new gates.

July 23 checked water in Burnt Fork to determine if there was enough water to supply water to the Perkins ditch I found that there was still plenty of flow in Burnt Fork to allow the Perkins ditch to draw 2,50 sec. Ft. of water.

July 30 responded to a call from water users on the lower end of Interstate canal regarding the water and after checking found that there was plenty of

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water in the canal and at the head gate in Burnt Fork to supply all rights.

August 6 Made a trip to Burnt Fork on the road to McKinnon and checked the flow of water at Orson Behunin's ranch and found that there was plenty of water reaching this right to fill the right.

The water supply in the Burnt Fork and Birch Creek drainage districts was such that the stored water in Island Lake was not used only as it seeped out into the channel, and the way the dam at Beaver Meadows had washed during the flood the situation was such that it was impossible to get water out of the reservoir.

I had planned on just sending in time spent in Utah for the season of 1965, however, Mr. Charles Meeks has informed me that the program of payment is such that the amount allotted to this area by the water users that each year the budget is paid to the Water Commissioner if his trips and regulations are many or few.

Enclosed is my signed voucher.

Very truly yours,

*Willard J. Stringer*

Willard J. Stringer  
Water Commissioner  
Burnt Fork Birch Creek Districts  
Mt. View, Wyoming

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*(72) 2-2-66*